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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/780,307	02/09/2001	Dieter Backer	A-2698	6701
7	7590 06/05/2003			
LERNER AND GREENBERG, P.A. Post Office Box 2480 Hollywood, FL 33022-2480		EXAM	EXAMINER	
			WILLIAMS	WILLIAMS, KEVIN D
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2854	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. Op/760,307 BACKER ET AL. Examiner Art Unit Ze54 ASHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cov r sh et with th correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, reply within the satuatory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, reply within the satuatory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, reply within the satuatory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, reply within the satuatory minimum of thirty (30) days, will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, reply within the satuatory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, reply within the satuatory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, reply within the satuatory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days will be considered timely. A prior reply received by the Office later than these morths after the mailing date of this communication, even if transly filed, may reduce any reply called to the period of the mailing date of this communication. Status Application is office to reply above is date than the mailing date of this communication. Application is plication is on condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Queryle, 19					
Examiner Examiner Serin D. Williams Serin D. Ser			Application No.	Applicant(s)	V
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Preiod for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ② MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Ederations of this may be available under the provisions of 30°C FR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be limely lited after SX (8) MONTHS from the making date of this communication. If the period for reply is specified above, the maximum staticary period will apply and will expire SX (6) MONTHS from the making date of this communication. If the period for reply is specified above, the maximum staticary period will apply and will expire SX (6) MONTHS from the making date of this communication. If the period for reply is specified above, the maximum staticary period will apply and will expire SX (6) MONTHS from the making date of this communication, even if timely filled, may reduce any searched patient term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Any reply received by the Office later than three marines after the making date of this communication, even if timely filled, may reduce any searched patient term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status 1) □ Responsive to communication(s) filled on 28 April 2003 2a) □ This action is FINAL. 2b □ This action is non-final. 3) □ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) □ Claim(s) 1.4 is/are pending in the application. 4) □ Claim(s) 1.4 is/are allowed. 6) □ Claim(s) 1.3 and 4 is/are rejected. 7) □ Claim(s) 1.3 and 4 is/are rejected to 20°C and 30°C			Examiner	Art Unit	
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Attachment(s)		-	esuc priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120) and/or 121.	
Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6) Other:	1) Notice of Notice of	, of References Cited (PTO-892) of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) Notice of Informal I		

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 2. Claims 1, 3, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Radocaj (US 4,392,840).

Radocaj teaches a machine comprising a belt drive including a continuous belt 2 for revolving during operation, said belt defining a longitudinal direction and a transverse direction, said belt having two protruding edges (Fig. 4) oriented in the longitudinal direction of said belt and being opposite one another in the transverse direction of said belt, and a belt guide 43 having stops (slanted ends of 44) with shaped surfaces acting on said two protruding edges of said belt, said shaped surfaces being selected from a group consisting of inclined surfaces (slanted ends of 44) and curved surfaces, said shaped surfaces exclusively contacting said protruding edges of said belt, where said shaped surfaces are rotationally symmetrical stop surfaces in rolling contact with said edges.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 3, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hofmann (US 6,250,224) in view of Radocaj.

Hofmann teaches a machine for printing images on flat printing material, comprising a belt drive (Fig. 3) including a continuous belt 60 for revolving during operation, said belt defining a longitudinal direction and a transverse direction, and a belt guide having stops 64.

Hofmann does not teach the belt having two protruding edges oriented in the longitudinal direction of said belt and being opposite one another in the transverse direction of said belt, the belt guide having stops with shaped surfaces acting on said two protruding edges of said belt, said shaped surfaces being selected from a group consisting of inclined and curved surfaces, said shaped surfaces exclusively contacting said protruding edges of said belt, where the shaped surfaces are rotationally symmetrical stop surfaces in rolling contact with said edges.

Radocaj teaches a machine comprising a belt having two protruding edges (Fig. 4) oriented in the longitudinal direction of said belt and being opposite one another in the transverse direction of said belt, a belt guide 43 having stops (slanted ends of 44) with shaped surfaces acting on said two protruding edges of said belt, said shaped surfaces being selected from a group consisting of inclined (slanted ends of 44) and curved surfaces, said shaped surfaces exclusively contacting said protruding edges of

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said belt, where the shaped surfaces are rotationally symmetrical stop surfaces in rolling contact with said edges.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Hofmann to have the belt drive with the shaped surfaces, in order to ensure that the belt is securely held in the guide, as taught by Radocaj.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3, and 4 have been considered but are most in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin D. Williams whose telephone number is (703) 305-3036. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew H. Hirshfeld can be reached on (703) 305-6619. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

KDW June 1, 2003 Jeslie Evanisko LESLIE J. EVANISKO PRIMARY EXAMINER Page 5